



SURVIVOR

Outreach Services (SOS)

SEPTEMBER 2011

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INTRODUCTION TO SURVIVOR OUTREACH SERVICES

The Survivor Outreach Services (SOS) program's mission is to embrace and reassure Survivors that they are linked to the Military family through a unified support program that enables them to remain an important part of the military for as long as they desire. SOS Coordinators assist Survivors whose loved one served on Active Duty, National Guard, Reserves, Retirees and Veterans of any Military Service. SOS is an Army-wide program that provides dedicated and comprehensive support services to Survivors of deceased Soldiers. The program standardizes casualty assistance services and policies across the Army and provides additional staffing

at Casualty Assistance Centers (CACs), Army Community Service (ACS) Centers, and Army National Guard (ARNG) and US Army Reserve (USAR) Family Programs. SOS plays an integral role in networking with Casualty Affairs, Retirement Services and Veteran Affairs, provides support and assis-

tance for Families of Fallen Soldiers through support groups, financial counseling and referral services. The challenges and grief associated with losing Soldiers is different for everyone, so SOS is there as long as the Family desires to be supported by SOS.

**SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:**

- Monthly Fallen Warrior Support Group Meetings
- September Upcoming Events; "Paying Tribute to our Fallen."

MEET YOUR SOS SUPPORT COORDINATORS

In Phoenix, the Survivor Outreach Services Program consists of a three Support Coordinator and a Financial Counselor.

Brook Wiggins is currently a member of the Arizona Army National Guard serving as a Finance Commander and is

an Afghanistan Veteran where she served in Kandahar, Afghanistan from 2009-2010. She received her B.S. at the University of Arizona in Criminal Justice and Public Management & Policy, and is currently receiving her Masters in Sports Exercise

Psychology from Argosy University. Brook has a passion for the military and helping Families cope and function with the loss of a loved one.

Kevin Herzinger is a retired Command Sergeant Major from the Arizona

MEET YOUR SOS SUPPORT COORDINATORS CONT.

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Army National Guard. He served in the military for over 33 years with several military assignments. A few of his assignments include serving as a Casualty Assistance Officer, Casualty Notification Officer, and he served as the State Casualty Coordinator in Arizona. In addition, Kevin is an Iraq Veteran and has received his B.A. in Human Resources & Management.

Stella Cook is retired from the U.S. Air Force. She served in the Air Force for over 25 years and is a Gulf War Veteran. She served in many capacities while serving in the Air Force. She served as a Casualty Liaison for the current and last Arizona Governors. She also served as an Air Force Honor Guard, Casualty Assistance Officer, and PA & Protocol NCO.



FALLEN WARRIOR SOS SUPPORT GROUPS

The SOS Program offers monthly support group meetings. These support group meetings are set up to allow Survivors to come together and share their grievance experiences with one another, and to bring in guest speakers to cover resources that are out there for Survivors.

Many times, Survivors feel that they are experiencing their situation on their own, which is not the case. At these support group meet-

ings, Survivors network with other Survivors and relate with one another's experiences, and build life long relationships.

The SOS Program offers support groups in Phoenix on the East and West Valley sides. The upcoming West Valley support group is on 8 September 2011 at 6pm located at American Legion Post 29, 6822 North 57th Drive, Glendale, AZ 85301. The East Valley support group is on

22 September 2011 at 6pm located at the Arizona Army National Guard Recruiting Office, 1000 E. University Drive, Tempe, AZ 85281.

The Support Coordinators are working on setting up support groups outside of the Phoenix area to locations such as Yuma, Prescott, and Flagstaff areas. Updates will be sent out regarding the times and locations.

"Survivors networking with other Survivors and building life-long relationships in supporting one another."



HONORING ARIZONA'S FALLEN HEROES

*Please join us on
September 6th at 6:30pm
to honor and remember
Arizona's Fallen Heroes
at The Nathan Martens
Arizona Memorial*

*6533 West Phillips Road
Queen Creek, AZ 85142*



“OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS”

YAVAPAI COUNTY CHAPTER OF AMERICAN GOLD STAR MOTHERS PRESENTS...

A fundraiser concert to salute our Soldiers and Veterans will be hosted on Saturday, November 12, 2011 from 10:00am to 11:30am. Music will be presented by Justin Unger, a native of Phoenix, Arizona.

The fundraiser will be held at the Main Auditorium at The Heights Church, 2121 Larry Caldwell Drive, Prescott, Arizona.

A love offering will be taken during the event to benefit the Wreaths Across America in Prescott National

Cemetery on December 10, 2011 at 10:00am and a trip for the American Gold Star Mothers Yavapai County to the Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia and Washington, D.C. May 2012.



PATRIOT DAY



9*11
2011
PATRIOT DAY
CELEBRATION

PATRIOT DAY 2011
www.patriotdayaz.org
Saturday, September 10
2pm - 9pm at Paseo Highland Park
3435 West Pinnacle Peak Road, Phoenix

PRESENTED BY  AND BENEFITING THANKSUSA, FIGHTER COUNTRY FOUNDATION AND 100 CLUB.



Benefit Concert from Award-Winning, Grammy Nominated singer
JOE NICHOLS

- A special appearance by Tony Orlando
- Featuring Nashville Recording Artists Corinne Chapman and Phil Vandel
- Aerial Show by Deer Valley War Birds
- Dramatic Sky Diving demonstration by The Black Daggers Special Forces Parachute Team
- Climb aboard an Apache Longbow, BlackHawk, Cobra Attack and a V-22 Osprey helicopters and other Armed Vehicles
- Fun Zone including Skype terminals to talk to soldiers, Rock climbing wall, Games, Arts, Crafts and more
- 9/11 Honor Ride sponsored by Buddy Stubbs Harley-Davidson and Sanderson Ford, featuring the Patriot Guard Riders
- Attending Dignitaries: US Senator John McCain, Congressman Ben Quayle, Governor Jan Brewer, Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon and more
- Plus Food, Drinks, Beer Garden and much more...







Tickets are \$9.11
All military personnel in BDU's or uniform
receive free entrance!

Thanks to our sponsors:














NATIONAL GOLD STAR MOTHER'S DAY

The name, Gold Star Mothers, was derived from the custom military families who put a service flag near their front window. The flag featured a star for each family member serving in their country (living members were denoted in blue and gold for those killed in the line of duty).

American Gold Star Mothers started in 1929, obtaining a federal charter from the U.S. Congress. In 1936,

a joint congressional resolution designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mother's Day.

Gold Star Mothers is an organization of mothers who have lost a son or daughter in serving our country. Each year, the United States President has requested to issue a proclamation; a call on U.S. government officials to display the Nation's Flag on all Government buildings; and to

call on people to display the flag and hold appropriate meetings on Gold Star Mother's Day to publicly express love and sorrow to Gold Star Mothers and their Families.

This month Gold Star Mother's Day is September 25, 2011. We do have Chapters in Phoenix and Tucson. For more information, please visit, <http://www.theamericanveteran.org/contactus.html>.



Grace Darling Seibold



CONTACT INFORMATION

Stella Julander Cook
Office: 602-267-2379
Blackberry: 602-301-8260
Email: stella.j.cook.ctr@us.army.mil

Brook Wiggins
Office: 602-267-4703
Blackberry: 602-750-2853
Email: brook.wiggins@us.army.mil

Kevin Herzinger
Office: 602-267-2739
Blackberry: 602-301-0253
Email: kevin.k.herzinger@us.army.mil

Survivor Outreach Services Coordinator, Contractor Army Survivor Outreach (SOS) Program
5636 East McDowell Road, Bldg M5710 Attn: SOS Phoenix, Arizona 85008-3495

RESOURCES

Education Websites

Army Family Programs
www.arfp.org

Beaumont Foundation of America
www.bmtfoundation.com

Camp Solari
www.solarihospice.com/go2/solari-kids-camp.cfm

Child Grief Education Association
www.childgrief.org/

Children of Fallen Heroes
www.cfsrf.org

Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation
www.fallenpatriots.org

Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund
www.cfsrf.org

Fisher House Foundation
www.fisherhouse.org

Folds of Honor Foundation
www.foldsofhonor.org

Scholarships

Spouse/Caregiver Spring 2012 Scholarship
<http://www.hopeforthewarriors.org/scholarelign.html>

FRY Scholarship
http://www.gibill.va.gov/documents/factsheets/fry_scholarship.pdf

Pat Tillman Scholarship
http://www.gibill.va.gov/resources/education_resources/Tillman_Scholarship.html

<http://www.foldsofhonor.org/scholarships>

<http://militaryscholar.org/index.html>

TRICARE

General number: 1-888-363-5433

North region: 1-877-874-2273

West region: 1-888-874-9378

South region: 1-800-444-5445

<http://www.tricare.mil>

Additional Resources

Military OneSource
<http://www.militaryonesource.com>

Army Survivor Benefits

1-800-626-3317

<http://www.armycasualty.army.mil>

Navy Survivor Benefits

1-800-368-3202

<http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/>

Marine Corps Survivor Benefits

1-800-847-1597

<http://www.manpower.usmc.mil>

Air Force Survivor Benefits

1-800-433-0048

<http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>

Coast Guard Survivor Benefits

<http://www.uscg.mil/ppc/ras/sbp.asp>

Please visit us on our website: <http://www.azguard.gov/families/SOS.htm>